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THE THEATRES

POLI'S

Irene Franklin's "Red Head, Gingerbread Head," song is being hummed and whistled all over town, demonstrating the exceeding popularity with which the Titan-haired queen of vaudeville is being received this week at Poli's. Not in many seasons has a singing character comedienne made so profound an impression on the vaudeville public in this city. Miss Franklin is being accorded a rousing reception at each and every performance this week. Her "Red Head" song is her best number, but Miss Franklin also sings several others, including her original composition, entitled "Expression," a song that never fails to "make good." The Red-haired queen will have a host of loyal courtiers before the week is ended. Miss Franklin is assisted by Burt Green a capable pianist.

Miss Rose Wilbur and Zillah Covington in their one-act drama "For Her Sister's Honor" a play by two people, make one of the most popular hits of this week's bill. Covington Wilbur present the entire play unaltered, making seven different character changes.

The remaining features of the bill are interesting in the extreme. Madame Caselli's famous troupe of Chihuahua Mexican dogs, the smallest performing canines in the world, never fail to please. Carson & Willard are with us again, with their hilarious skit, "The Dutch in Egypt." The Raven Trio in an exceptionally clever equilibrium act; Patsy Doyle who has some original talk and songs; Steeley & Edwards, competent black and white fact comedians and musicians; and the latest in motion pictures complete and excellent bill.

SMITH'S

Little Miss Gretchen Hartman and the entire original cast of "Mary Jane's Pa" will appear here with Mr. Dixey this evening, and the complete Garden theatre stage production will be used.

Those splendid animated picture plays and illustrated songs will again hold the attention to-morrow afternoon and evening, and a fine bill has been selected for this occasion. In the evening especially there will be an occasion of unusual enjoyment, for in addition to the usual program Mr. Greenspun will sing a third song, and there will be present a large number of the boys of the A. E. C. club, who will assist in the singing. The same conditions as regards prices, hours, seats, etc., will prevail, and the theatre should be filled to the limit of its capacity.

An engagement of more than usual importance is announced for Friday evening when Charles Frohman will present for the first time in this city, Clyde Fitch's comedy, "The Happy Marriage," with the same company and production which made the play's recent engagement at the Hollis street Theatre in Boston one of the most successful in many years. For the presentation of this play Mr. Frohman has selected a company of unusual merit, which is headed by Doris Keane and Edwin Arden.

George M. Cohan's 1909 offering is "The American Idea," which comes to Bridgeport Saturday afternoon, and evening. The cast is headed by George H. Brown, a strongly featured comedian. With him are associated such old favorites as Trilby Friganza, Robert L. Dailey, Gilbert Gregory, Mark H. Harris, Carrie Bowman, Lola Merrill, Harold Forbes, Richard Taber, Edith MacBride and Harry Gordon. The chorus numbers seventy-five singers and dancers, the piece being above all devoted to music and movement. The song numbers are numerous, including "Sullivan," which Mr. Cohan believes is a better topical song than "Harrigan," "F-A-M-E," "Too Long From Long Acre Square," "They All Follow Me" and "My Garden That Blooms For You." All these are twenty musical numbers in "The American Idea."

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The Kind You Have Always Bought.
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JUSTIFIES LABOR UNIONS

Extracts from Sermon by Rev. L. F. Reynolds of East Norwalk.

A sermon by Rev. L. F. Reynolds of the Advent Christian church in East Norwalk, contained the following:
No one can well deny that values are created by labor. The raw materials are provided by a beneficent Creator, but that which converts the material into commodities convenient for man's use is labor. This being true, it follows that a just proportion of these values should be labor's compensation. There is something essentially wrong with the system which in its workings gives the least of the improvements and conveniences of our times to the people who by their skill and toil have produced them. The teaching of the Bible on this point ought to be recognized, viz.: "The laborer is worthy of his hire," and "the husbandman that laboreth must be first partaker of the fruit."

Again, the time is past when any fair unprejudiced person can deny to labor the right to organize. Complex conditions make an understanding between the varied craftsmen imperative; such can be secured only by an organization. The benefits of co-operation are well known to the co-operating server of nature, and is most clearly stated in the Word of God: "Two are better than one, for they have a good reward for their labor. If they fall the one will lift up his fellow, but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; and if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not easily broken." Now Solomon, the author of these words, knew nothing of the modern labor situation, but had he known, he could not have given a much clearer warrant for unionism.

Again, the right to reduce hours of labor is unquestioned. Now workmen are segregated in factories and shops and each does but a small part in the manufacturing of an article, thus the day is filled with a constant repetition of the same movements, which easily wear the muscles and brain of the toiler. One works under the direction of a foreman, and is compelled to conform to rigid regulations. Thus the exacting demands of to-day in the labor world will produce greater fatigue and exhaustion in eight hours, than twelve hours formerly.

The introduction of machinery has so increased the output that there is no necessity for a long-hour day; in fact, if all are to have the privilege of working, the hours of labor must be shortened. One thing more, the demand upon people to-day are multitudinous. They must have time for mental improvement, for social intercourse, and for religious exercises. These things have become essentials of modern life. The worker then has a right to a just compensation for his toil—his share of the improvements of the age; to organization that he may work in harmony with his fellows, and to a gradual shortened day for toil.

The local difficulty (hatters' strike) is but an incident in the great worldwide conflict. The industrial struggle has been long, and at times bitter, and there is no prospect of an immediate perfect adjustment. Those who believe the predictions of the Bible do not look for the complete settlement of labor difficulties, until all earth's troubles are settled by the coming of the King.

Some of the battles fought by labor in the past have been won, and some have been lost. There is a lesson to be learned by an unbiased review of the struggles, and it is this: Where labor has been victorious it has invariably been when her demands are just, and she has lost when the struggle has been provoked by labor, or when the demands made were unfair and unwarranted.

The justice of your case will ever be the strongest point then in any struggle. The worker cannot afford to forget this. It is not so much that you have a strong union though that is a factor in success, it is not altogether that public sentiment is in your favor, though that helps, the one principal thing you need to look out for is that your cause is just. If the worker would continue to win victories, and to improve his condition, let him take care to have right on his side, to carefully keep his agreement, to be fair in his dealing with his employer, and not excusing him in his demands.

There was a principle laid down many centuries ago by Him whom we should all serve, which, if needed, could end this struggle (hatters' strike) within twenty-four hours. The principle is this, let each put himself in the other's place. Let the manufacturers put themselves in the place of the workmen, and look at this question from their standpoint; and let the members of the trade put themselves in the place of the manufacturer, and ask what they would desire in such a case; if this were done, a basis of settlement would readily be reached. Ah, marvelous are the possibilities of the golden rule for peacemaking: "In all things, whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them."

POINTS OF INTEREST.

New Department
will be opened at Kleban & Gelman, 1134-1144 Main street, the entire third floor will be given to the display of art goods, pictures and lace curtains. First opening day to-morrow.

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buys an umbrella which is usually sold up to two and a half a piece. Kleban & Gelman have them now displayed in their show windows to be sold Thursday only.

Ladies of Bridgeport
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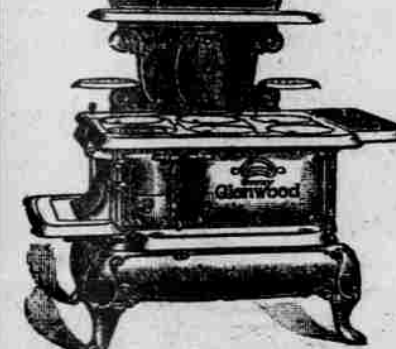
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